GENERAL

1. Can the special grade infested be added to or removed during a reinspection/appeal (basis file sample), or Board appeal when the original sample was based on a probed sample?

   ANSWER. *If the sample is made infested during the original inspection, the infested designation cannot be eliminated on a worked or unworked file sample. If, however, the infested designation is not applied during the original inspection, the infested designation may be added during the review inspection process provided sufficient numbers are present in the file sample.*

   NOTE: *If the reinspection or appeal is based on a new sample, the infested designation can be added or taken away depending on the number of insects found in the new sample.*

2. Can the special grade infested be added or taken away on the reinspection, appeal, or Board appeal when the original sample was based on a diverter sample and examined under continuous loading?

   ANSWER. *The reinspection, appeal, and Board appeal result will follow the original result unless it can be determined that the sampler made a material error at the time of sampling.*

   NOTE: *For land carriers and barges an applicant may request that a probe sample be obtained as part of the reinspection or appeal, and examined for condition factors (i.e., musty, sour, heating, infested) only. The review inspection certificate will continue to show the D/T as the "method of sampling" in the sampling block of the certificate. The D/T file sample will be used to determine the factor information and the probe sample to review the condition in question. When a probed sample is used for condition, use the approved statement listed in Book IV (Pages 3-18 or 3-20). This option does not apply to multiple grade inspection lots.*

3. Can an applicant request a reinspection, appeal, or Board appeal on a worked file sample for objective factors, such as test weight, moisture, broken corn and foreign material, or dockage when there is not a virgin portion to analyze?

   ANSWER. *An applicant always has the right to request a review inspection, but the applicant should be made aware that the review inspection will not be based on a new portion, the results will be carried over from the preceding inspection if there was not a material error.*

4. What is the standardized work portion for the grains under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA)?

ANSWER. *The standardized portion for all grains should range from 1 1/8 to 1 1/4 quarts. When converted to grams the normal range would be the following:*

GRAIN	RANGE	GRAIN	RANGE
Barley	850-950	Rye	1000-1050
Canola	500	Sorghum	1000-1050
Corn	1000-1050	Soybeans	1000-1050
Flaxseed	1000-1050	Sunflower Seed	500-600
Mixed Grain	Depends on Mixture	Triticale	1000-1050
Oats	700-750	Wheat	1000-1050

5. What are the DKT portion size tolerances for the grains under the USGSA?

ANSWER:

GRAIN	FACTOR	GRAMS	RANGE
Barley	DKT	25	22.5-27.5
	HT	50	48.5-51.5
Canola	ODK	10	
	HT	5	
	DKG	5	
Corn	DKT	250	225-275
	HT	250	225-275
Flaxseed	DKT	15	13.5-16.5
	HT	15	13.5-16.5
Mixed Grain	DKT	Depends on mixture	
	HT	Depends on mixture	
Oats	DKT	30	27.0-33.0
	HT	30	27.0-33.0
Rye	DKT	15	13.5-16.5
	HT	30	27.0-33.0
Sorghum	DKT	15	13.5-16.5
	HT	30	27.0-33.0
Soybeans	DKT	125	112-138
	HT	125	112-138
Sunflower Seed	DST	30	28.5-31.5
	HT	30	28.5-31.5
Triticale	DKT	15	13.5-16.5
	HT	30	27.0-33.0
Wheat	DKT	15	13.5-16.5
	DKT	20	18.0-22.0 (DU-CuSum)
	HT	50	45-65.0
	HT	66	60.0-72.0 (DU-CuSum)

6. Does the quality qualifier "Distinctly Low Quality (DLQ)" apply to submitted samples?

ANSWER. *Yes. Remember, the determination may be made on the lot and/or sample as whole. In the case of a submitted sample, the sample functions as both. Consequently, if you have large debris or other unusual conditions present in a submitted sample, (i.e., conditions not listed in Book II, Table No. 5 - "U.S. Sample Grade Criteria"), it would grade DLQ.*

7. Approximately how many beans/peas/lentils are found per 500 grams?

ANSWER:

Lentils (standard)	9,200	Yelloweye Beans	2,000
Lentils (small seeded)	14,800	Pinto Beans	1,820
Split Peas	6,900	Pink Beans	1,815
Winter Peas	4,690	Great Northern Beans	1,620
Wrinkled Peas	3,170	Small Red Beans	2,500
Smooth Green Peas	2,900	Baby Lima Beans	1,430
Smooth Yellow Peas	2,470	Cranberry Beans	1,090
Mung Beans	10,490	Light Red Kidney Beans	1,040
Small White Beans	3,565	White Kidney Beans	1,000
Flat Small White Beans	3,200	Dark Red Kidney Beans	950
Pea Beans	2,825	Marrow Beans	930
Black Turtle Soup Beans	2,820	Large Lima Beans	480
Blackeye Beans	2,030		

8. What is the approximate number of kernels per gram and the approximate number of kernels per damage work portion for the following grains?

ANSWER:

GRAIN	KERNELS PER GRAM	KERNELS PER DAMAGE WORK PORTION
Wheat	33.3*	499
Corn	3.5	875
Soybeans	7.5	938
Sorghum	36	540
Barley	28.8	720
Sunflower Seeds	19.6	588
Rye	40	600
Flaxseed	193	2,895
Oats	30	900
Triticale	25.4	381
*Wheat by class:	HRS/SRW	37/gram
	HRW	31/gram
	WHCB	29/gram
	SWH/DU	25/gram

9. Table No. 4 on page 1-18 of the Grain Inspection Handbook, Book II, General Information (8/9/04) appears to establish a revised reporting requirement for portion size weights. Is this interpretation correct, or should we continue recording according to the earlier edition (1997)?

ANSWER. *Table 4 is intended to reflect the division size and sensitivity requirements for new scales. Generally, the work portion and separation shall be weighed to the smallest division of the scale.*

10. Under the Cu-Sum loading plan individual results for Dark, Hard, and Vitreous (DHV) are recorded on the inspection log to the tenth of a percent and the shiplot average is recorded to the nearest whole percent. How would a sublot result of 68.49% be recorded as a sublot and the final average?

ANSWER. *A sublot would be recorded as 68.4% and the shiplot average would be certified as 68.0%. To ensure that the calculating device being used does not automatically round it may be necessary to set the calculator to the floating mode.*

11. The current instructions do not specifically address the distance between an inspector's nose and the sample when making an odor determination. Is it permissible for an inspector to bury their nose into a sample when making an odor determination?

ANSWER. *No. Official inspection personnel shall determine the odor of grain, rice, edible beans, peas, lentils, and like commodities by smelling the surface of the sample. In order to minimize the inhalation of organic materials commonly found in raw commodity samples official personnel* ***shall not*** *put their noses in contact with samples when making odor determinations. Some field offices employ the "two finger" distance for making determinations, while others may opt for a distance somewhat closer to the surface of the grain. In either case, official inspection personnel should be able to assess the odor in samples and reach a determination using their acquired skills and training. The practice of using a consensus for problematic samples is still encouraged.*

12. Does the Carter-Day Dockage Tester have to be turned off between samples?

ANSWER. *No. As stated in Reference # 177, dated August 11, 1999, it is permissible to allow the Carter Day Dockage Tester to remain running between samples but for checktesting purposes the dockage tester must be turned off between samples.*

(Updated 06/29/2006)